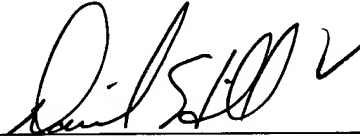


REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 168-245 represent a patentable contribution to the art and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David M. Hill", is written over a horizontal line. A long, sweeping checkmark extends from the right side of the signature.

Date: May 31, 2000

David M. Hill
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